

## Minutes of the College and Career Readiness Committee meeting

February 23, 2011 DeVry University, Downers Grove 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Present:

Co-chairs: Sharon Thomas Parrott, John Rico

Members: Michelle Butler, Karen Gordon, Jennifer Kopach, Eric Lichtenberger (by phone), Nina Menis, Gregory Morris, Melissa Robbins, Brian Spittle, Jason Tyszko (by phone), Brenda Wilkerson (by phone), Christopher Wilkerson, Pat Hayes, Debbie Potts, Cheryl Rodgers, Nara Nayer

Staff: Ann Courter

Co-chair John Rico began the meeting noting that the P-20 Council's work was mentioned in the Governor's budget address.

**The next two meetings of the committee will be March 16 and April 20, same time and place.**

The committee is working to present its completed report at the next full P-20 Council meeting on April 27.

With Greg Morris facilitating, the committee suggested areas that still need to be fleshed out for the report:

- a statement of the problem (Melissa is working on this)
- a definition of college and career readiness
- additional research (possibly drawing on the Pathways to Prosperity report)
- a clearer explanation of how business can participate (e.g., programs of study)
- a call for best practices of schools, colleges, and workforce training to be shared with the P-20 Council and communicated through the website
- an explanation of the benefit to the Illinois economy from career readiness
- a focus on the increased engagement of students who see a clear path to a career with relevant studies
- glossary of terms: stackable credentials, industry-related credentials, academic, technical, and portable skills, postsecondary options

The markers and indicators for success/ the metrics will not be finalized for this report.

The report is not yet ready for posting on the web site.

John Rico will get clarification on how the committee's recommendations will be used.

In response to a question about the inclusion of STEM learning exchanges as an appendix to the committee report, Jason Tyszko clarified that the program outlined in the Race to the Top application was still the blueprint for the state, and that the objectives had been amended to include a P-20 scope.

With respect to the Lumina Foundation goal that the P20 Council has adopted, Brian Spittle suggested that with highly differentiated college and career structures, a more detailed analysis than simply stating that x% of students went on to college would be useful.

Ann Courter, P-20 policy analyst and staff member, will find out whether the committee can join the members only part of the [www.P20Council.illinois.gov](http://www.P20Council.illinois.gov) website. If not, we will set up a google.doc or some other way to facilitate edits on the report.

Melissa asked the committee to prioritize the “conduits to readiness” on slide 6 of the 2/22 draft. The group selected 3 priorities: remove structural inconsistency, link workforce needs to curricula development, and connect and maximize use of data.

It was suggested that the committee think about selecting one or two recommendations that require inter-system cooperation to focus on and develop a more in depth understanding of the mechanism for change and the potential costs and benefits of implementing the recommendation.

Melissa Robbins graciously volunteered to serve as coordinator for the committee. Ann will help as needed.

Committee members are encouraged to use the P-20 website, which has minutes from the Council and committees, and links to relevant research. [www.P20Council.illinois.gov](http://www.P20Council.illinois.gov).

The next meeting will be on March 16 at 1 p.m. at DeVry, with a phone call-in number also available.